

Chair Wm. Weston J. Newton

*First Vice-Chair:
Laurie Slade Funderburk*

*Micajah P. (Micah) Caskey, IV
Neal A. Collins
Patricia Moore "Pat" Henegan
William M. (Bill) Hixon
Jeffrey E. (Jeff) Johnson
Mandy Powers Norrell
Tommy M. Stringer
Bill Taylor
Robert Q. Williams*

*Jennifer L. Dobson
Research Director*

*Cathy A. Greer
Administration Coordinator*

Legislative Oversight Committee



South Carolina House of Representatives

**Post Office Box 11867
Columbia, South Carolina 29211
Telephone: (803) 212-6810 • Fax: (803) 212-
6811**

Room 228 Blatt Building

*Gary E. Clary
Chandra E. Dillard
Lee Hewitt
Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr.
Marvin R. Pendarvis
Robert L. Ridgeway, III
Edward R. Tallon, Sr.
John Taliaferro (Jay) West, IV
Chris Wooten*

*Charles L. Appleby, IV
Legal Counsel*

*Carmen J. McCutcheon Simon
Research Analyst/Auditor*

*Kendra H. Wilkerson
Fiscal/Research Analyst*

Legislative Oversight Committee Meeting

**Tuesday, June 25, 2019
Blatt Building Room 110**

Archived Video Available

- I. Pursuant to House Legislative Oversight Committee Rule 6.8, South Carolina ETV was allowed access for streaming the meeting. You may access an archived video of this meeting by visiting the South Carolina General Assembly's website (<http://www.scstatehouse.gov>) and clicking on *Committee Postings and Reports*, then under *House Standing Committees* click on *Legislative Oversight*. Then, click on *Video Archives* for a listing of archived videos for the Committee.

Attendance

- I. Pursuant to Committee Rule 3.1, the public-input meeting of the House Legislative Oversight Committee was called to order by Chairman Wm. Weston J. Newton. All members of the Committee were present for all or a portion of the meeting, except Representative Mandy Powers Norrell and Representative Tommy M. Stringer.

Minutes

- I. Representative Gary E. Clary moved to approve the minutes from the meeting on May 8, 2019. A roll call vote was held, and the motion passed.

Representative Clary’s motion to approve the minutes from the meeting on May, 8 2019:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting: Present	Not Voting: Absent
Micajah P. “Micah” Caskey, IV	✓			
Gary E. Clary	✓			
Neal A. Collins	✓			
Chandra E. Dillard	✓			
Laurie Slade Funderburk	✓			
Patricia Moore “Pat” Henegan	✓			
Lee Hewitt	✓			
William M. “Bill” Hixon	✓			
Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr.	✓			
Jeffrey E. Johnson	✓			
Mandy Powers Norrell				✓
Marvin R. Pendarvis	✓			
Robert L. Ridgeway, III	✓			
Tommy M. Stringer				✓
Edward R. “Eddie” Tallon, Sr.	✓			
Bill Taylor	✓			
John T. West	✓			
Robert Q. Williams	✓			
Christopher Sloan “Chris” Wooten	✓			
Wm. Weston J. Newton	✓			

Discussion of Agenda and Procedure

- I. Chairman Newton stated that one purpose of this meeting was to continue the discussion of the Economic Development, Transportation, Natural Resources and Regulatory Subcommittee’s study of the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation or LLR.

Chairman Newton stated that the other purpose of this meeting was to receive public testimony about the Rural Infrastructure Authority. Chairman Newton added that because public notice was given that the opportunity to provide public input about the Rural Infrastructure Authority would begin at 2:30 p.m., the Committee would begin with public input first.

Public Input

- I. Members of the public provided testimony about the Rural Infrastructure Authority or RIA. Constituent testimony and Committee minutes summarizing testimony are not the comments or expression of the House Legislative Oversight Committee, any of its Subcommittees, the House of Representatives, or any of these entities staff.

Before each person testifies, Chairman Weston Newton administered an oath to the person. Below are the names of each person who testified and the time in the archived video at which the testimony begins.

Andrena Powell-Baker (08:37)

Ms. Powell-Baker testified that she resides in Union County and is the President of the South Carolina Economic Developers' Association (SCEDA). Ms. Powell-Baker provided background about SCEDA and explained that SCEDA serves as the voice of economic development for South Carolina. Ms. Powell-Baker testified that RIA is active and engaged in counties and communities throughout South Carolina. She stated she has received many positive comments about the RIA staff. Ms. Powell-Baker also testified about how RIA supports local communities by providing grants to fund water and sewer projects, and included details of two recent projects in Anderson and Union counties. Ms. Powell-Baker then answered questions from the Committee members regarding membership in SCEDA and recent projects RIA has assisted with.

Scott Tanner (21:18)

Mr. Tanner testified that he resides in Clarendon County and is the City Administrator for the city of Manning. Mr. Tanner provided the details of four projects that RIA has assisted Manning within the last five years, including replacing outdated sewer lines and upgrading the wastewater treatment facility. Mr. Tanner stated that these projects were vital to Manning and could not have been completed without the help of RIA. Mr. Tanner then answered questions from the Committee members regarding administering CDBG funds, timeline in securing grants from RIA, and timeline for completing projects.

Discussion of the Rural Infrastructure Authority

- I. Ms. Bonnie Ammons, Executive Director of the South Carolina Rural Infrastructure Authority, under oath, addressed the Committee regarding the public input and answers questions from the Committee members regarding the areas of interest the RIA focuses on, areas of potential expansion for the RIA, sources of funding, and the RIA board.

Discussion of Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation

- I. Ms. Emily Farr, Agency Director for the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, still under oath, addresses the Committee and answers questions from the members regarding the study.

- II. Representative Bill Hixon moves that the Committee follow up with LLR in January 2020 regarding results of its licensing fee analysis and the steps it is taking to address problems identified.

Representative Hixon’s motion that the Committee follow up with LLR in January 2020 regarding results of its licensing fee analysis and the steps it is taking to address problems identified:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting: Present	Not Voting: Absent
Micajah P. “Micah” Caskey, IV			✓	
Gary E. Clary	✓			
Neal A. Collins	✓			
Chandra E. Dillard	✓			
Laurie Slade Funderburk	✓			
Patricia Moore “Pat” Henegan	✓			
Lee Hewitt	✓			
William M. “Bill” Hixon	✓			
Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr.	✓			
Jeffrey E. Johnson	✓			
Mandy Powers Norrell				✓
Marvin R. Pendarvis	✓			
Robert L. Ridgeway, III	✓			
Tommy M. Stringer				✓
Edward R. “Eddie” Tallon, Sr.	✓			
Bill Taylor	✓			
John T. West	✓			
Robert Q. Williams	✓			
Christopher Sloan “Chris” Wooten				✓
Wm. Weston J. Newton	✓			

III. Representative Bill Hixon moves that the Committee recommend that the General Assembly consider amending state law to:

- a. Allow fingerprints submitted by the Real Estate Commission licensees to be kept on file by SLED for subsequent background checks; and
- b. Allow the Real Estate Commission, with licensees' permission, to utilize fingerprints already on file with other state agencies to perform required background checks.

Representative Hixon's motion that the Committee recommend that the General Assembly consider amending state law to A) allow fingerprints submitted by the Real Estate Commission licensees to be kept on file by SLED for subsequent background checks; and B) allow the Real Estate Commission, with licensees' permission, to utilize fingerprints already on file with other state agencies to perform required background checks:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting: Present	Not Voting: Absent
Micajah P. "Micah" Caskey, IV	✓			
Gary E. Clary	✓			
Neal A. Collins				✓
Chandra E. Dillard	✓			
Laurie Slade Funderburk	✓			
Patricia Moore "Pat" Henegan	✓			
Lee Hewitt	✓			
William M. "Bill" Hixon	✓			
Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr.	✓			
Jeffrey E. Johnson				✓
Mandy Powers Norrell				✓
Marvin R. Pendarvis	✓			
Robert L. Ridgeway, III	✓			
Tommy M. Stringer				✓
Edward R. "Eddie" Tallon, Sr.	✓			
Bill Taylor				✓
John T. West	✓			
Robert Q. Williams				✓
Christopher Sloan "Chris" Wooten	✓			
Wm. Weston J. Newton	✓			

- IV. Representative Robert L. Ridgeway moves that the Committee adopt the Subcommittee Study of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, including the changes adopted today.

Representative Ridgeway’s motion that the Committee adopt the Subcommittee Study of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation, including the changes adopted today:	Yea	Nay	Not Voting: Present	Not Voting: Absent
Micajah P. “Micah” Caskey, IV	✓			
Gary E. Clary	✓			
Neal A. Collins				✓
Chandra E. Dillard	✓			
Laurie Slade Funderburk	✓			
Patricia Moore “Pat” Henegan				✓
Lee Hewitt	✓			
William M. “Bill” Hixon	✓			
Joseph H. Jefferson, Jr.	✓			
Jeffrey E. Johnson				✓
Mandy Powers Norrell				✓
Marvin R. Pendarvis	✓			
Robert L. Ridgeway, III	✓			
Tommy M. Stringer				✓
Edward R. “Eddie” Tallon, Sr.	✓			
Bill Taylor				✓
John T. West	✓			
Robert Q. Williams				✓
Christopher Sloan “Chris” Wooten	✓			
Wm. Weston J. Newton	✓			

Discussion of Committee Administrative Matters

- I. Chairman Newton provides an overview of administrative matters, including the ability of members to submit written statements for inclusion in Committee Studies pursuant to Standard Practice Rule 12.6.

Chairman Newton also announced the Committee’s intent to schedule another Full Committee meeting in August to receive public input on the Department of Probation, Pardon and Parole; Department of Education; Secretary of State’s Office; SC Housing

Finance and Development Authority; and Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services.

II. There being no further business; the meeting adjourns.